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AN

EXPLANATION

OF THE

WORD EQUALITY.

THE perverse sense imposed on the word EQUALITY, by the folly, or the fears of some of our countrymen, is as dangerous as it is absurd, and they may probably see the day when they may repent of having infused into the minds of the people, a notion that the EQUALITY to be contended for, is an *equality of wealth and possessions*. If, by continually repeating this idea, the *uninformed*, or; (as they are arrogantly styled by the pensioned M. B****) the "SWINISH MULTITUDE," should take it into their heads that they are justified in *imposing* such a system, the consequences will rest upon those, who, by a perversion of terms, have wickedly, or foolishly propagated so dangerous a doctrine.

The Equality insisted on by the friends of Reform, is an EQUALITY OF RIGHTS; or, in other words that *every person* may be equally entitled to the protection and benefits of society; may *equally* have a voice in the election of those who make the laws by which he is affected in his *liberty*, his *life* or his *property*; and may have a fair opportunity of exerting to advantage any talents he may possess. The rule is not "Let all mankind be perpetually equal;" GOD and nature have forbidden it-----but "Let all mankind start fair in the race of life." The *inequality* derived from labour and successful enterprise, the result of superior industry and good fortune, is an *inequality essential to the very existence of society*; and it naturally follows, that the property so acquired should pass from a father to his children. To render property insecure would destroy all motives to exertion, and tear up public happiness by the roots.

Such are the *truths* acknowledged and avowed by the REFORMERS of the present day; and where, but in the wild workings of a disordered imagination, do their enemies find the dangerous doctrines with which they daily alarm the public. Are they acknowledged by the government of America? Are they to be discovered in the code of the French nation? Have they been avowed by *any constitutional Society in this kingdom*? Or, are there any traces of such doctrines in the works of *ANY Modern REFORMER*?-----Again, are the Reformers of the present day less interested than their abusers in the prosperity of their country? Are Mr. GREY and his numerous coadjutors,

men without property? Let the opposers of Reform come forward and answer these questions, or let us hear no more of **LEVELLERS**, or **LEVELLING SYSTEMS**? nor let an odium be thrown on *great and unchangeable truths*, from the *WILFUL PERVERSION OF A WORD*.

TO THE SWINISH MULTITUDE.

We hope the above definition of a word, which has been so basely perverted by the enemies of the human race, will be so far invincible in its operation, as to remove the prejudices which have been excited in the minds of the ignorant, against the **FRIENDS OF REFORMATION**, and the Advocates of an Equality of Rights, an equality so essential to the preservation of our **LIBERTIES**, and the promotion of our **HAPPINESS**, that it is impossible that either the one, or the other of those blessings can be secured to us, unless this is obtained; and as a preliminary to the acquisition of it, we would recommend to our countrymen, a serious and impartial consideration of the advantages which would result to them from so valuable a privilege; and we would hope that this consideration would rouse them from that apathy which they are immersed in, and which will, unless awakened to a sense of their danger, terminate in a total privation of their civil and religious liberty. The systematic opposition which has been made, during the present Administration, to the reasonable claims of the People, sufficiently justifies such an apprehension—"They barbarously imagine, that a more equal participation of blessings, would tend to a diminution of their personal power and authority; and thus, are far less anxious to increase the comforts, or relieve the sufferings of the indigent and oppressed than to perpetuate their ignorance, and to ensure the continuance of their own dominion."

Permit us to appeal to your judgement, by asking you what connection can there be between a system of favouritism, taxation, corruption, and the prosperity of a nation? Is it not to be attributed to an uniform adherence to this wretched system that the nation groans under the pressure of a debt, which amounts to the enormous sum of **TWO HUNDRED and SEVENTY MILLIONS**,* and to aggravate our distress and insult our misfortune, the

* Two Hundred and Seventy Millions, is the sum of which the human mind can hardly have an idea—were it laid down in Guineas, close together in a line, it would extend four Thousand three Hundred miles in length—where it laid down in Shillings, it would extend three times and a half round the world, and would require sixty Thousand four Hundred horses to draw it, at the rate of Fifteen Hundred weight each horse!!

The annual amount of the taxes is twenty millions of pounds ‡; the weight of it in gold would be upwards of 156 tons;

‡ The taxes collected amount to the above sum, though when the expence of collecting, &c. is defrayed, the surplus does not much exceed seventeen millions.

the ponderous load is rendered intolerable, when we recollect that a great portion of the taxes which ought to be appropriated to the liquidation of the debt, is squandered upon A PROFLIGATE RACE OF PLACEMEN and PENSIONERS ; the only qualification they have to boast of, as the basis of their merit, is a total desertion of the cause of the people, and servile attachment to the fountain of emolument and honors.

Let the magnitude of the object which you have to contend for, stimulate your most vigorous exertions, in co-operating with the Friends of Reform, in order to obtain a full, free, and equal Representation of the People, in the House of Commons, which has been by the gravitating power of secret and undue influence, attracted into the vortex of corruption.

We shall now conclude with reminding our countrymen, in order to encourage them in the pursuit of this momentous object, that they have REASON, TRUTH, and JUSTICE, for their auxiliaries ; therefore we hope they will not be intimidated by the feeble and ineffectual opposition which may be made to their claims, by a phalanx of Placemen and Pensioners, who have no other virtues to unite them but corruption, and no other arguments to oppose our reasoning but sophistry and declamation.

Extracted from Holt's characters of the Kings and Queens of England.

† A few are here enumerated out of many hundreds ;

	£. pr. annum.
Lord Sandwich, Master of the Hounds,	2000
Marquis Cornwallis, Constable of the Tower,	1000
Marquis of Bath, Groom of the Stole,	2000
Twelve Lords of the Bedchamber,	1000 each
Twelve Grooms of the Bedchamber	500 each
Lord Aylesford, Captain of the Kings Beefeaters,	1000
Mr. Pitt, Admiral of the Cinque Ports	4000
Mr. Pitt, First Lord of the Treasury,	4000
Mr. Pitt, Chancellor of the Exchequer,	1800
Lord Chatham, First Lord of the Admiralty,	3000
Duke of Richmond Master of the Ordnance,	1500
Gen. Howe, Lieutenant,	1100
Mr. Dundas, Secretary of State, supposed to be worth	10,000 pr. annum
Mr. Dundas treasurer of the Navy,	4000
Mr. Dundas, President of the India Board, Salary and Patronage unknown	
Lord Walsingham and Lord Chesterfield Postmasters General	2000 each
Master of Greenwich Hospital,	1000
Lord Chamberlain of the Household	1200
Vice Chamberland,	1159
Treasurer of the Household	1200
Comptroller,	1200
Captain of the Pensioners (Lord Falmouth)	1000
His Lieutenant,	500
Master of the King's Horse,	1266
The Keeper of the King's Hawks (though he has none)	1374

Mr.

Mr. REEVES, who has come forward as Chairman of the new association at the Crown and Anchor, has some substantial reasons for opposing all leveling systems—he holds appointments to the amount of three thousand pounds a year; being Chief Justice of Newfoundland, standing council to the Mint, Receiver of the police, Clerk and Secretary to the board of Trade, a commissioner of Bankrupts, &c. &c.

AVERAGE OF TAXES IN EACH CENTURY.

Year	1066	William Conqueror	-	-	£. 400,000
	1166	Henry II.	-	-	200,000
	1266	Henry III.	-	-	150,000
	1366	Richard II.	-	-	130,000
	1466	Henry IV.	-	-	100,000
	1566	Elizabeth	-	-	500,000
	1666	Profligate Charles II.	-	-	1,800,000
AND IN					
	1791	ONLY			17,000,000

The Civil list alone is 1,000,000, equal to twice the National taxes in the time of Elizabeth—one MILLION is ten pounds each, from one Hundred Thousand Families.

Sir W. Petty supposes the net profits arising in England	43,000,000
Deduct Taxes	19,000,000

To maintain all England	24,000,000
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Interest of the National Debt per minute is	£. 17 0 0
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Income for the Support of Government per minute is	15 0 0
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The amount of Taxes in England	17,000,000
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The amount of Taxes in America	70,000
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The Taxes are more in England, than in America by	16,930,000
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In England on an average each person pays 2l. 8s. per annum and if he lives fifty years he has paid to government	120 0 0
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In America on an average each person pays 5s. per annum and if he live fifty-years he has paid to government	12 10 0
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The difference between England and America is	107 10 0
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N. B. America is ten times as large as England, and contains nearly as many Inhabitants.

